

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Rawlings, Stephen L.

Attorney's Docket No. 39766-0061 CP2

Art Unit: 1642

Customer No. 25213

In re application of:
)
Laurence A. LASKY, et al.
)

Application Serial No. 09/068,377

Filed: May 8, 1998

For: TYROSINE PHOSPHORYLATED CLEAVAGE FURROW-ASSOCIATED PROTEINS

(PSTPIPS)

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Date Mailed: JUNE 26, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

**Mail Stop RCE** 

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment and Response is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on August 27, 2002 (Paper No. 33).

The Final Office Action mailed on August 27, 2002 sets a three-month term for reply. On December 18, 2002, a Notice of Appeal was filed along with a request for a one month extension of time and the fees therefore. The present Preliminary Amendment and Response is accompanied by a request for five months' extension of time, setting the term to July 18, 2003, so that this Preliminary Amendment and Response is timely filed.

Claims 16-18 and 24 stand rejected by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request the amendment of the application as follows and consideration of the subsequent remarks before continued examination of the application.

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